



JAMES A. NOYES, Director

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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IN REPLY PLEASE  
REFER TO FILE: **A-0**

October 3, 2002

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**GRAND AVENUE REALIGNMENT PROJECT  
REQUEST FOR JURISDICTION  
FROM THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
ADOPT, ADVERTISE, AND AWARD  
APPROVE RELATED ACTIONS  
PROJECT ID NO. P200000359, C.P. 86483  
SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 1  
4 VOTES**

**JOINT RECOMMENDATION WITH THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER THAT  
YOUR BOARD:**

1. Adopt the enclosed resolution declaring Grand Avenue between Temple Street and 300 feet south of Second Street within the City of Los Angeles to be a part of the County System of Highways.
2. Adopt plans and specifications for the Grand Avenue Realignment Project at an estimated construction cost between \$6,473,000 and \$8,900,000, funded by State of California and Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) grants and other revenue sources.
3. Authorize the Director of Public Works and Executive Officer to advertise for bids upon receiving authorization to advertise from the California Department of Transportation.

4. Authorize the Director of Public Works to award and execute a construction contract with the apparent lowest responsible bidder within the estimated construction cost, to approve the Faithful Performance and Labor and Materials Bonds submitted by the contractor, and to deliver the project.
5. Authorize the Director of Public Works to execute change orders as provided under Section 20395 of the Public Contract Code.
6. Authorize the Director of Public Works to enter into a sole-source consultant contract with Sapphos Environmental for a not to exceed fee of \$90,000, funded by State of California and Metropolitan Transportation Authority grants and other revenue sources, to provide monitoring services to comply with environmental mitigation measures included in the project.

#### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

On November 6, 2001, your Board accepted grant funds from the MTA and the State of California Department of Transportation to provide pedestrian and roadway improvements on Grand Avenue from Temple Street to just south of Second Street. This project is part of a larger effort by the County and the Music Center to improve public access to the Music Center and County Mall and to create a more welcoming environment for the community.

The recommended actions will allow construction to proceed and be completed in early September 2003, prior to the opening of the Walt Disney Concert Hall, and ensure compliance with the environmental Mitigation Monitoring Program that was prepared for the project. The contract documents specify that work between First Street and Second Street are to be completed by the end of July, so that construction does not interfere with the move-in activities and operational setup and tuning of the Walt Disney Concert Hall.

#### **Project Description**

The project will realign Grand Avenue from Temple Street to just south of Second Street by generally shifting the roadway to the southeast, creating a wider sidewalk in front of the Music Center and the Walt Disney Concert Hall. A minimum 12-foot-wide sidewalk will be maintained on the southeast side of the roadway in front of the County Mall and County Parking Lot 17. The new sidewalks will have enhanced paving, pedestrian lighting, landscaping, and street furnishings. In addition, to accommodate the realignment, the northeast corner of Grand Avenue and First Street, adjacent to the County Courthouse, will be relandscaped into a "pocket park" to accommodate juror waiting and queuing; the accessible ramp to the Hall of Administration will be replaced and integrated into the

landscape design; and the bollards and k-rails in front of the Hall of Administration and County Courthouse will be replaced with permanent security barriers more in keeping with the redesigned landscape.

In addition, the project includes pedestrian improvements to the County Mall, including the reconfiguration of the existing stairways from Grand Avenue to the Paseo de Los Pobladores de Los Angeles to increase the stairways' visibility from the street and the installation of an elevator from Grand Avenue to the Paseo to provide direct disabled access from the Metro Red Line Civic Center Station to Grand Avenue. A pedestrian bridge from the mid-block crosswalk over the circular driveway entrances to County Parking Lot 18 and additional cantilevered stairs from the balcony behind the circular driveways into the Paseo have been identified as additive alternates to the project and will be included if sufficient funding is available upon receipt of bids.

#### Resolution on Jurisdiction

Grand Avenue is under the jurisdiction of the City of Los Angeles. Sections 1700-1702 of the California Streets and Highways Code provide that your Board may decree, by resolution adopted by a four-fifths majority, any highway in the County lying in whole or in part within a city to be a County highway. We are requesting that your Board adopt such a resolution declaring the portion of Grand Avenue included in the project to be part of the County highway system in order to allow the County to administer construction of the Grand Avenue Realignment Project. Upon consent of the City of Los Angeles, the Code allows the County to complete the improvements and pay for such work with funds available to the County.

#### Adoption of the Plans and Specifications and Award of Construction Contract

The project is funded, in part, from Federal and State transportation funds and, therefore, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) must review the project and authorize the County to advertise for bids. We are recommending that your Board approve the plans and specifications and instruct the Director of Public Works and the Executive Officer to advertise for bids once Caltrans approval is received.

We are also recommending that your Board delegate to the Director of Public Works the authority to award and execute the construction contract with the lowest responsible bidder within the estimated construction cost upon receipt of bids. The delegation of this authority allows us to expedite the contracting process so that the project can be completed prior to the opening of the Walt Disney Concert Hall.

### Change Order Authority

Under Sections 20142 and 20145 of the Public Contract Code and Section 2.18.050 of the County Code, the Director of Public Works may authorize single changes to construction contracts for capital projects over \$250,000 equal to \$25,000 plus 5 percent of the construction value over \$250,000, up to a maximum of \$150,000.

Section 20395 of the Public Contract Code authorizes your Board to delegate to the Director of Public Works, in his capacity as Road Commissioner, similar authority for change orders for roadway work, but such authorization has not been delegated under the County Code. Because the project includes both capital improvements that are governed by Sections 20142 and 20145 of the Public Contract Code and roadway improvements governed by Section 23095 of the Public Contract Code, we are recommending your Board delegate to the Director of Public Works the authority to issue single change orders for the roadway work up to the maximum \$150,000 so that a uniform authority exists for the entire construction project.

### Agreement with Sapphos Environmental

On October 8, 2002, your Board certified the Environmental Impact Report for the Grand Avenue and Environs Project, which includes the realignment of Grand Avenue and associated pedestrian improvements to the County Mall, and adopted a Mitigation Monitoring Program to ensure that environmental mitigation measures adopted as a condition of project approval are implemented in the project.

The Environmental Impact Report was prepared by Sapphos Environmental under a contract with the Music Center. Because of Sapphos Environmental's familiarity with the Mitigation Monitoring Program and the required mitigation measures, we are recommending that your Board authorize the Director of Public Works to enter into a sole-source consultant agreement with Sapphos Environmental to provide support in monitoring the construction contractor's compliance with the mitigation measures and to provide archaeological, paleontological, and biological monitors to comply with the mitigation measures.

### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

This project will meet the County's Strategic Plan Goal of Service Excellence by creating a more welcoming environment for the community and visitors to the Music Center campus, as well as the new Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels and the County Mall. The various elements of the project will make Grand Avenue and the adjacent facilities more

pedestrian friendly and aesthetically pleasing. It will also meet the Goal of Fiscal Responsibility by investing in public infrastructure.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

Public Works' fair construction cost estimate is between \$6,473,000 and \$8,900,000. The total project cost is currently estimated at \$12,466,000. The Project Schedule and Budget Summary are included in Enclosure A.

The project is funded by three MTA grants totaling \$5,135,000, two State grants totaling \$4,800,000, Music Center funds in the amount of \$2,100,000, and \$431,000 of other revenue available to the project. Sufficient appropriation is available in the Fiscal Year 2002-03 Capital Projects Budget (C.P. 86483) to fund construction of the project.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

During design of the project, it was determined that the Grand Avenue bridge over Lower Grand Avenue, which begins approximately halfway between First and Second Streets, does not meet current Caltrans design standards for seismic safety. The Grand Avenue Realignment Project will widen a portion of that bridge to allow for the realignment, but the improvements will not resolve this existing seismic deficiency.

As a result of this determination, the City of Los Angeles has applied to Caltrans for funding to seismically retrofit the entire bridge, including the portion of the bridge that will be widened as part of this project. The County is supporting the City in this request. Further, the County has agreed to identify funding in the future, up to a maximum \$400,000, to assist the City in financing the retrofit of the bridge between First and Second Streets if efforts to obtain the Caltrans funding are unsuccessful.

A standard contract, in the form previously approved by County Counsel, will be used. The standard Board-directed clauses that provide for contract termination, renegotiation, and hiring qualified displaced County employees will be included in the contract.

The project specifications contain provisions requiring the contractor to report solicitations of improper consideration by County employees and allowing the County to terminate the contract if it is found that the contractor offered or gave improper consideration to County employees.

As requested by your Board on August 12, 1997, and as threshold requirement for consideration for contract award, bidders will be required to attest to their willingness to consider Greater Avenues for Independence Program participants for future employment.

As required by your Board, language has been incorporated into the specifications stating that the contractor shall notify its employees, and shall require each subcontractor to notify its employees, that they may be eligible for the Federal Earned Income Credit under the Federal income tax laws.

The successful bidder also will be required to show full compliance with Los Angeles County Code Chapter 2.200 (Child Support Compliance Program) and Los Angeles County Code Chapter 2.203 (Contractor Employee Jury Services Program).

#### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

Approval of these actions will not impact any other projects. However, during construction, employees and visitors to the adjacent properties will experience some inconvenience.

During construction, vehicular traffic along Grand Avenue will be limited to four lanes, two in each direction. Additional lane closures and or full street closures may be allowed during off-peak hours. Further, up to two 4-day full street closures, including weekends, may be required to reconstruct the center of the roadway.

Parking Lots 18 (County Mall garage), 14 (Music Center garage) and 22 (Grand Avenue) will remain open during construction; however, left turns into and out of these lots from Grand Avenue will be prohibited. Off-hour access to Parking Lot 18 will be provided from Hill Street.

Pedestrian movement at street level along Grand Avenue will be restricted. Pedestrian access to the Grand Avenue entrance of the Hall of Administration will be limited to emergency ingress and egress only. Pedestrian access to the County Courthouse and the Artists' Entrance to the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion from Grand Avenue will be maintained to the greatest extent possible during construction, but may need to be limited to emergency ingress and egress for portions of the construction.

The use of heavy construction equipment within 500 feet of an active venue at the Music Center during performances will be prohibited. Likewise, the use of heavy construction equipment within 150 feet of the southwest corner of the County Courthouse will be prohibited when the courtroom in that corner of the Courthouse is in session.

We are working with the tenant departments within the Hall of Administration, the Superior Court, the Music Center, the Internal Services Department and other affected parties to distribute information to employees, visitors, and others prior to the start of construction, which is anticipated for mid-January 2003. In addition, a website providing updates on the construction and changes to the road conditions will be established so that employees and others can obtain updated information.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), on October 8, 2002, your Board certified the Final Environmental Impact Report for the Grand Avenue and Environs Project, which included the realignment of Grand Avenue and associated pedestrian improvements to the County Mall. The environmental mitigation measures related to the realignment and pedestrian improvements, which were adopted by your Board as a condition of project approval, have been incorporated into the plans and specifications.

### **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

Participation by Community Business Enterprises is encouraged through Public Works' Capital Projects CBE Outreach Program and by monitoring the good faith efforts of bidders to utilize CBE's.

As requested by your Board on February 3, 1998, this contract will be listed on the Office of Small Business website.

Public Works has evaluated and determined that the Living Wage Program (County Code Chapter 2.201) does not apply to this construction contract as this contract is for non-Proposition A services.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
October 3, 2002  
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**CONCLUSION**

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to the CAO (Capital Projects) and Public Works.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES A. NOYES  
Director of Public Works

DAVID E. JANSSEN  
Chief Administrative Officer

DO:djm  
D:\FILES\GRAND AVE\ADOPT ADVERTISE AWARD.WPD

Enc.

cc: Chief Administrative Office (Lyn Wallensak)  
County Counsel  
Music Center



**RESOLUTION DECLARING GRAND AVENUE FROM  
TEMPLE STREET TO 300 FEET SOUTH OF SECOND STREET  
A PART OF THE COUNTY SYSTEM OF HIGHWAYS**

WHEREAS, the portion of Grand Avenue from Temple Street to 300 feet South of Second Street, within the City of Los Angeles, County of Los Angeles, State of California, should be a part of the County System of Highways, for the limited purpose of realigning the roadway. The work entails reconstruction of the roadway, bridge modifications, curb, gutter, and sidewalk; placement of landscaping/hardscaping; construction of wheelchair ramps; modification of traffic signals; and installation of street and pedestrian lighting between the aforementioned limits; and

WHEREAS, it is the purpose of the Board of Supervisors of said County to construct the above-stated improvements and perform appurtenant work thereon provided the consent of the governing body of the City shall first be given.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, State of California, that the portion of Grand Avenue from Temple Street to 300 feet South of Second Street, within the City of Los Angeles, is hereby declared to be a part of the System of Highways of said County as provided in Sections 1700 and 1704 inclusive of the Streets and Highways Code of the State of California for the purpose of, and limited to, the aforementioned work.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, State of California, that the County agrees:

- I. That the County of Los Angeles shall not be responsible for any damage or liability occurring by reason of any roadway condition on the aforementioned street, within the City of Los Angeles, existing prior to the start of construction by the County or following the completion and field acceptance of said construction and acceptance of the City of Los Angeles.
- II. That the work to be performed by the County shall not include roadway maintenance activities on Grand Avenue from Temple Street to 300 feet South of Second Street, within the City of Los Angeles, prior to the start of construction by the County. Following the completion and field acceptance of said construction and acceptance by the City of Los Angeles, the City of Los Angeles shall be responsible for maintenance of the newly constructed street and standard features within the City's right-of-way. The non-standard features that will not be maintained by the CITY shall be identified in a CITY-COUNTY Maintenance Agreement that shall be executed prior to completion of project.

The foregoing resolution was on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2002, adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles and ex-officio the governing body of all other special assessment and taxing districts, agencies, and authorities for which said Board so acts.

VIOLET VARONA-LUKENS  
Executive Officer of the  
Board of Supervisors of the  
County of Los Angeles

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

LLOYD W. PELLMAN  
County Counsel

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy

October 15, 2002

**ENCLOSURE A**

**GRAND AVENUE REALIGNMENT PROJECT  
REQUEST FOR JURISDICTION FROM THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES,  
ADOPT, ADVERTISE, AND AWARD AND APPROVE RELATED ACTIONS  
(C.P. 86483, Project ID No. P200000359)**

**I. PROJECT SCHEDULE**

<b>Project Activity</b>	<b>Scheduled Completion Date</b>	<b>Revised Completion Date</b>	<b>Date Completed</b>
Award Design Contract	02/02		02/02
Construction Documents	08/02		09/02
Jurisdictional Approvals	09/02		10/02
Award Construction Contract	11/02	12/02	
Construction Start	01/03	01/03	
Acceptance of Contract	09/03	09/03	

**II. PROJECT BUDGET**

<b>Budget Category</b>	<b>Current Approved Budget</b>	<b>Impact of this Action</b>	<b>Revised Project Budget</b>
Land Acquisition	\$0	\$0	\$0
Construction (including change order contingency)	\$9,887,000	\$0	\$9,887,000
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0
Architectural/Engineering Services	\$1,683,952	\$0	\$1,683,952
Consultant Services	\$90,000	\$0	\$90,000
Permits & Fees	\$0	\$0	\$0
Miscellaneous	\$15,000	\$0	\$15,000
County Services	\$790,000	\$0	\$790,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$12,465,952</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$12,465,952</b>